In The United States Patent and Trademark Office
On Appeal From The Examiner To The Board
of Patent Appeals and Interferences

In re Application of:	Christopher E. Pearce et al.
Serial No.:	09/579,348
Filing Date:	May 25, 2000
Group Art Unit:	2416
Confirmation No.:	7459
Examiner:	Hanh N. Nguyen
Title:	*System and Method for Device Registration Replication in a Communication Network*

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Dear Sir:

Appeal Brief

Appellants have appealed to the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences from the decision of the Examiner electronically sent January 2, 2009. The Examiner electronically sent an Advisory Action on February 26, 2009, and Appellants filed a Notice of Appeal on April 1, 2009. Appellants respectfully submit this Appeal Brief with the statutory fee of $540.00.

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Real Party In Interest

This application is currently owned by Cisco Systems, Inc. as indicated by an assignment recorded on August 24, 2000, in the Assignment Records of the United States Patent and Trademark Office at Reel 011029, Frame 0882.

Related Appeals and Interferences

There are no known appeals or interferences which will directly affect or be directly affected by or have a bearing on the Board's decision regarding this appeal.

Status of Claims

Claims 8-14 and 54-74 are pending in this application. Claims 1-7 and 15-53 have been canceled. Claims 75-99 have been withdrawn. Claims 8-13 and 54-72 were rejected under a Final Office Action electronically sent January 2, 2009. Claim 14 was allowed in the Final Office Action, and Claims 73 and 74 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but were indicated to be allowable if rewritten in independent form. The Examiner notes in the Advisory Action that the only rejection of Claims 57 and 64 has been withdrawn (a Section 112 rejection), thus Appellants believe that Claims 8-13, 54-56, 58-63, and 65-72 currently stand rejected. Appellants present Claims 8-13, 54-56, 58-63, and 65-72 for appeal. Appendix A shows these claims involved in this appeal.

Status of Amendments

All amendments presented by the Appellants have been entered by the Examiner.

Summary of Claimed Subject Matter

For the convenience of the Board, Appellants provide the following mappings of the claims here on appeal. Appellants do not necessarily identify all portions of the specification and drawings relevant to the recited elements of the claims. Appellants provide the following mapping not to limit the scope of the claims, but to help the Board make a decision on this Appeal.

Claim 8 of the present application recites a method for device registration replication that includes providing a plurality of call managers in a packet-based network (see, e.g., elements 26 of Figure 1), each call manager controlling one or more devices coupled to the packet-based network (see, e.g., elements 22 of Figure 1) and storing composite registration information associated with the devices controlled by the plurality of call managers (see, e.g., Page 15, line 12 – Page 18, line 21; Figure 3). The method also includes determining that a first call manager has gone off-line and deleting registration information associated with the first call manager from the composite registration information stored by a second call manager (see, e.g., Page 21, line 19 – Page 24, line 12; Figure 4D).

Claim 10 of the present application recites a method for device registration replication that includes providing a plurality of call managers in a packet-based network (see, e.g., elements 26 of Figure 1), each call manager controlling one or more devices coupled to the packet-based network (see, e.g., elements 22 of Figure 1) and storing composite registration information associated with the devices controlled by the plurality of call managers (see, e.g., Page 15, line 12 – Page 18, line 21; Figure 3). The method also includes determining that a first call manager has come on-line and communicating local registration information associated with devices controlled by a second call manager from the second call manager to the first call manager (see, e.g., Page 20, line 17 – Page 21, line 18; Figure 4C).

Claim 14 of the present application recites a system for device registration replication in a packet-based network that includes a first call manager and a second call manager coupled to the packet-based network (see, e.g., elements 26 of Figure 1), the first and second call managers each controlling one or more devices (see, e.g., elements 22 of Figure 1) and storing composite registration information associated with the devices controlled by the first

and second call managers (see, e.g., Page 15, line 12 – Page 18, line 21; Figure 3). The first call manager is operable to determine that the second call manager has come on-line and communicate local registration information associated with the devices controlled by the first call manager to the second call manager (see, e.g., Page 20, line 17 – Page 21, line 18; Figure 4C), communicate registration information associated with a newly registered device controlled by the first call manager to the second call manager (see, e.g., Page 18, line 22 – Page 19, line 11; Figure 4A), communicate a deletion message to the second call manager indicating the removal of a device from the control of the first call manager (see, e.g., Page 19, line 12 – Page 20, line 16; Figure 4B), and determine that the second call manager has gone off-line and delete registration information associated with devices controlled by the second call manager from the composite registration information stored by the first call manager (see, e.g., Page 21, line 19 – Page 24, line 12; Figure 4D).

Claim 54 of the present application recites a method for device registration replication that includes providing a plurality of call managers in a packet-based network (see, e.g., elements 26 of Figure 1), each call manager controlling one or more devices coupled to the packet-based network (see, e.g., elements 22 of Figure 1) and storing composite registration information associated with the devices (see, e.g., Page 15, line 12 – Page 18, line 21; Figure 3). The method also includes communicating status information from a first call manager to a second call manager in response to a change in which call manager of the plurality of call managers controls a device, and updating the composite registration information stored by the second call manager in response to receiving the status information (see, e.g., Page 18, line 22 – Page 20, line 16; Figures 4A and 4B).

Claim 61 of the present application recites a system for device registration replication in a packet-based network comprising a plurality of call managers (see, e.g., elements 26 of Figure 1). The system includes a first call manager and a second call manager coupled to the packet-based network, the first and second call managers each controlling one or more devices (see, e.g., elements 22 of Figure 1) and storing composite registration information associated with the devices (see, e.g., Page 15, line 12 – Page 18, line 21; Figure 3). The first call manager is operable to communicate status information to the second call manager in response to a change in which call manager of the plurality of call managers controls a device

(see, e.g., Page 18, line 22 – Page 20, line 16; Figures 4A and 4B). The second call manager is operable to update the composite registration information stored by the second call manager in response to receiving status information from the first call manager (see, e.g., Page 18, line 22 – Page 20, line 16; Figures 4A and 4B).

Grounds of Rejection to be Reviewed on Appeal

Appellants request that the Board review the Examiner's rejection of Claims 8-13, 54-56, 58-63, and 65-72 under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,671,262 issued to Kung et al. ("*Kung*").

Argument

I. The Examiner's Rejection of Claims 8-13, 54-56, 58-63, and 65-72 Under Section 103 is Improper

Claims 8-13, 54-56, 58-63, and 65-72 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being unpatentable over *Kung*. Appellants contend that this rejection is improper for the reasons provided below.

A. Independent Claim 8 is Allowable

Independent Claim 8 of the present application recites the following limitations:

> A method for device registration replication, comprising:
> providing a plurality of call managers in a packet-based network, each call manager controlling one or more devices coupled to the packet-based network and storing composite registration information associated with the devices controlled by the plurality of call managers;
> determining that a first call manager has gone off-line; and
> deleting registration information associated with the first call manager from the composite registration information stored by a second call manager.

Claim 8 is allowable because *Kung* does not disclose, teach or suggest each and every one of these limitations. For example, *Kung* does not disclose a plurality of call managers that each store "composite registration information associated with the devices controlled by the plurality of call managers." *Kung* does not disclose that a call manager stores *composite* registration information about devices controlled by a plurality of call managers (i.e., which necessarily includes registration information about devices controlled by other call managers). The Examiner asserts that this limitation is disclosed at Column 10, lines 25-35 and 55-65 of *Kung*, which the Examiner characterizes as disclosing that the "call manager includes a storage listing number of subscribers, verifies identity of the calling subscribers and authenticates whether a call is authorized." This is not a disclosure of a call manager that stores *composite* registration information about devices controlled by a *plurality of other* call managers.

Furthermore, *Kung* does not disclose "determining that a first call manager has gone off-line; and deleting registration information associated with the first call manager from the

composite registration information stored by a second call manager." The present Examiner asserts that these limitations of Claim 1 are disclosed by a teaching in *Kung* that a call manager determines that it needs resources for a call and communicates with other call managers requesting available resources for the call. Although step 1315 of Figure 13 of *Kung* discloses communications between call managers, there is no disclosure that any such communications are in response to a change in which call manager of the plurality of call managers controls a device (such as a call manager going off-line). Furthermore, there is no disclosure that such communications are for the purposes of changing (e.g., causing the deletion of) any registration information.

Moreover, the Examiner goes on to assert that deleting existing subscribers or adding new subscribers is inherent given the fact that *Kung* discloses updating registration information. However, Appellants believe this inherency argument is moot given the fact that *Kung* does not disclose updating (or even storing) composite registration information, as discussed above. Furthermore, the paragraph asserting inherency also mentions *Kung's* alleged teaching of "updat[ing] the new calling subscribers to the conference call." Appellants are unsure to what the Examiner is referring and how it relates to storing composite registration information as claimed. *Kung* merely discloses finding a resource for a call (CS) and then initiating the call using that resource. This is not a teaching of updating composite registration information as claimed.

For at least these reasons, Appellants respectfully submit that Claim 8 is in condition for allowance. Therefore, Appellants request allowance of Claim 8, as well as Claim 9, which depends from Claim 8.

B. Dependent Claim 9 is Allowable

In addition to its dependence from allowable Claim 8, Claim 9 is also allowable since *Kung* does not disclose the additional limitations recited in this dependent claim. For example, Claim 9 recites "wherein determining that a first call manager has gone off-line comprises . . . failing to receive a response from the first call manager, the first call manager having previously responded to a polling message from the second call manager." For a teaching of this limitation, the Examiner points to steps 1315 and 1317 of Figure 13 of *Kung*.

However, the "NO" branch referenced by the Examiner is referring to an indication from other call managers that there are no resources available for a call. This would be the opposite of failing to receive a response from a call manager since the call manager responded to indicate that no resources are available. For at least this additional reason, Claim 9 is allowable.

C. Independent Claim 10 is Allowable

Independent Claim 10 of the present application recites the following limitations:

> A method for device registration replication, comprising:
> providing a plurality of call managers in a packet-based network, each call manager controlling one or more devices coupled to the packet-based network and storing composite registration information associated with the devices controlled by the plurality of call managers;
> determining that a first call manager has come on-line; and
> communicating local registration information associated with devices controlled by a second call manager from the second call manager to the first call manager.

The Examiner does not address the specific limitations of independent Claim 10 (the Examiner appears only directed to Claim 8, not Claim 10). However, Claim 10 is allowable at least for reasons similar to those provided above in conjunction with Claim 8. *Kung* does not disclose "storing composite registration information associated with the devices controlled by the plurality of call managers" and it also does not disclose "communicating local registration information associated with devices controlled by a second call manager from the second call manager to the first call manager" when the first call manager comes on-line," as claimed. The Examiner does not address these limitations and they are not disclosed in *Kung*. Therefore, Appellants request allowance of Claim 10, as well as Claims 11-13, which depend from Claim 10.

D. Dependent Claim 12 is Allowable

In addition to its dependence from allowable Claim 10, Claim 12 is also allowable since *Kung* does not disclose the additional limitations recited in this dependent claim. For example, Claim 12 recites "combining the registration information received from the second and third call managers by the first call manager to form the composite registration

information stored by the first call manager." With respect to this claim, the Examiner does not cite to any particular portion of *Kung*. Instead, the Examiner makes broad generalizations and assumptions that are not supported by the reference. Appellants respectfully submit that this is improper and contend that *Kung* does not disclose combining registration information from a number of different call managers since it does not disclose a call manager that stores registration information about devices controlled by other call managers (as discussed above). For at least this additional reason, Claim 12 is allowable.

E. Independent Claims 54 and 61 Allowable

Claim 54 of the Application, as amended, recites the following limitations:

> A method for device registration replication, comprising:
> providing a plurality of call managers in a packet-based network, each call manager controlling one or more devices coupled to the packet-based network and storing composite registration information associated with the devices;
> communicating status information from a first call manager to a second call manager in response to a change in which call manager of the plurality of call managers controls a device; and
> updating the composite registration information stored by the second call manager in response to receiving the status information.

Independent Claim 61 recites similar, although not identical, limitations.

Independent Claims 54 and 61 are allowable because *Kung* does not disclose, teach or suggest each and every one of these limitations. For example, *Kung* does not disclose "communicating status information from a first call manager to a second call manager in response to a change in which call manager of the plurality of call manager controls a device." The Examiner asserts that this limitation is disclosed by a disclosure in *Kung* that a call manager determines that it needs resources for a call and communicates with other call managers requesting available resources for the call. Appellants fail to see how this disclosure relates in any way to a "change in which call manager of the plurality of call managers controls a device" or "communicating status information from a first call manager to a second call manager" in response to such a change. Although step 1315 discloses communications between call managers, there is no disclosure that such communications are in response to a change in which call manager of the plurality of call managers controls a

device.

Furthermore, *Kung* does not disclose, teach or suggest "updating the composite registration information stored by the second call manager in response to receiving the status information." For a teaching of this limitation, the Examiner cites to step 1327 of Figure 13 and the associated text. However, this step merely discloses that the conference server starts serving a caller in a conference call. The preceding step discloses sending the IP address of the conference server to a call manager server, but this is also not a disclosure of updating registration information and it clearly is not done in response to a change in which call manager controls a device.

For at least these reasons, Appellants respectfully submit that Claims 54 and 61 are in condition for allowance. Thus, Appellants request allowance of these independent claims, as well as the claims that depend from these independent claims.

Furthermore, the claims depending from Claims 54 and 61 are also allowable because *Kung* does not disclose the additional limitations recited in these claims. The limitations of these claims recite additional details regarding the communicating and updating steps of Claim 54 (and corresponding limitations of Claim 61). Because these limitations of Claims 54 and 61 are not disclosed on *Kung* as discussed above, the further details of these limitations are also clearly not disclosed.

Conclusion

Appellants have demonstrated that the present invention, as claimed, is clearly distinguishable over the prior art cited by the Examiner. Therefore, Appellants respectfully request the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences to reverse the final rejection of the Examiner and instruct the Examiner to issue a notice of allowance of all claims.

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Respectfully submitted,

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Appendix A: Claims on Appeal

1-7. (Canceled)

8. (Previously Presented) A method for device registration replication, comprising:

providing a plurality of call managers in a packet-based network, each call manager controlling one or more devices coupled to the packet-based network and storing composite registration information associated with the devices controlled by the plurality of call managers;

determining that a first call manager has gone off-line; and

deleting registration information associated with the first call manager from the composite registration information stored by a second call manager.

9. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 8, wherein determining that a first call manager has gone off-line comprises:

transmitting a polling message from the second call manager over the packet-based network directed to the first call manager; and

failing to receive a response from the first call manager, the first call manager having previously responded to a polling message from the second call manager.

10. (Previously Presented) A method for device registration replication, comprising:

providing a plurality of call managers in a packet-based network, each call manager controlling one or more devices coupled to the packet-based network and storing composite registration information associated with the devices controlled by the plurality of call managers;

determining that a first call manager has come on-line; and

communicating local registration information associated with devices controlled by a second call manager from the second call manager to the first call manager.

11. (Original) The method of Claim 10, wherein determining that a first call manager has come on-line comprises:

transmitting a polling message from the second call manager over the packet-based network directed to the other call managers coupled to the packet-based network; and

receiving a response from the first call manager indicating that the first call manager is on-line.

12. (Original) The method of Claim 10, further comprising:

communicating local registration information associated with devices controlled by a third call manager from the third call manager to the first call manager; and

combining the registration information received from the second and third call managers by the first call manager to form the composite registration information stored by the first call manager.

13. (Original) The method of Claim 12, further comprising adding local registration information associated with devices controlled by the first call manager to the composite registration information stored by the first call manager.

14. (Previously Presented) A system for device registration replication in a packet-based network, comprising:

a first call manager and a second call manager coupled to the packet-based network, the first and second call managers each controlling one or more devices and storing composite registration information associated with the devices controlled by the first and second call managers;

the first call manager operable to:

determine that the second call manager has come on-line and communicate local registration information associated with the devices controlled by the first call manager to the second call manager;

communicate registration information associated with a newly registered device controlled by the first call manager to the second call manager;

communicate a deletion message to the second call manager indicating the removal of a device from the control of the first call manager; and

determine that the second call manager has gone off-line and delete registration information associated with devices controlled by the second call manager from the composite registration information stored by the first call manager.

15-53. (Canceled)

54. (Previously Presented) A method for device registration replication, comprising:

providing a plurality of call managers in a packet-based network, each call manager controlling one or more devices coupled to the packet-based network and storing composite registration information associated with the devices;

communicating status information from a first call manager to a second call manager in response to a change in which call manager of the plurality of call managers controls a device; and

updating the composite registration information stored by the second call manager in response to receiving the status information.

55. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 54, wherein:

communicating status information in response to a change in the control status of a device comprises communicating registration information associated with a newly registered device controlled by the first call manager; and

updating the composite registration information comprises adding the registration information associated with the newly registered device to the composite registration information stored by the second call manager.

56. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 54, wherein:

communicating status information in response to a change in the control status of a device comprises communicating a deletion message indicating the removal of a device from the control of the first call manager; and

updating the composite registration information comprises deleting the registration information associated with the device from the composite registration information stored by the second call manager.

57. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 56, further comprising determining that a device has been removed from the control of the first call manager in response to a failure by the first call manager to receive a response from the device to a polling message transmitted to the device by the first call manager.

58. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 54, wherein the composite registration information comprises:

local registration information associated with devices controlled by the second call manager storing the composite registration information; and

remote registration information associated with devices controlled by other call managers.

59. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 54, wherein the composite registration information comprises:

a telephone number associated with at least one device; and

a process identification string identifying a device process executing in a call manager controlling the device, the device process coordinating communication with the device.

60. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 54, wherein the composite registration information is stored in a registration information table.

61. (Previously Presented) A system for device registration replication in a packet-based network comprising a plurality of call managers, the system comprising:

a first call manager and a second call manager coupled to the packet-based network, the first and second call managers each controlling one or more devices and storing composite registration information associated with the devices;

the first call manager operable to communicate status information to the second call manager in response to a change in which call manager of the plurality of call managers controls a device; and

the second call manager operable to update the composite registration information stored by the second call manager in response to receiving status information from the first call manager.

62. (Previously Presented) The system of Claim 61, wherein:

the first call manager is operable to communicate status information in response to a change in the control status of a device by communicating registration information associated with a newly registered device controlled by the first call manager; and

the second call manager is operable to update the composite registration information stored the second call manager by adding the registration information associated with the newly registered device to the composite registration information stored by the second call manager.

63. (Previously Presented) The system of Claim 61, wherein:

the first call manager is operable to communicate status information in response to a change in the control status of a device by communicating a deletion message indicating the removal of a device from the control of the first call manager; and

the second call manager is operable to update the composite registration information stored by the second call manager by deleting the registration information associated with the device from the composite registration information stored by the second call manager.

64. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 63, wherein the first call manager is further operable to determine that a device has been removed from the control of the first call manager in response to a failure by the first call manager to receive a response from the device to a polling message transmitted to the device by the first call manager.

65. (Previously Presented) The system of Claim 61, wherein the composite registration information stored in the second call manager comprises:

local registration information associated with devices controlled by the second call manager; and

remote registration information associated with devices controlled by the first call manager.

66. (Previously Presented) The system of Claim 61, wherein the composite registration information stored in the first and second call managers comprises:

a telephone number associated with at least one device; and

a process identification string identifying a device process executing in the call manager controlling the device, the device process coordinating communication with the device.

67. (Previously Presented) The system of Claim 66, wherein each telephone number is associated with a process identification string in a registration information table.

68. (Previously Presented) The system of Claim 61, wherein the first call manager is further operable to:

determine that the second call manager has gone off-line; and

delete registration information associated with devices controlled by the second call manager from the composite registration information stored by the first call manager.

69. (Previously Presented) The system of Claim 68, wherein the first call manager determines that the second call manager has gone off-line when the first call manager fails to receive a response to a polling message sent to the second call manager, the second call manager having previously responded to a polling message from the first call manager.

70. (Previously Presented) The system of Claim 61, wherein the first call manager is further operable to:

determine that the second call manager has come on-line; and

communicate local registration information associated with devices controlled by the first call manager to the second call manager.

71. (Previously Presented) The system of Claim 70, wherein the first call manager determines that the second call manager has come on-line when the first call manager receives a response to a polling message from the second call manager indicating that the second call manager is on-line.

72. (Previously Presented) The system of Claim 71, further comprising a third call manager operable to:

determine that the second call manager has come on-line; and

communicate local registration information associated with devices controlled by the third call manager to the second call manager.

73. (Previously Presented) The system of Claim 72, wherein the second call manager is further operable to combine the registration information received from the first and third call managers to form the composite registration information stored by the second call manager.

74. (Previously Presented) The system of Claim 73, wherein the second call manager is further operable to add local registration information associated with devices controlled by the second call manager to the composite registration information stored by the second call manager.

75. (Withdrawn) A first call manager coupled to a packet-based network that comprises a plurality of call managers, the first call manager comprising:

one or more device processes controlling one or more devices coupled to the packet-based network; and

a digit analysis module storing composite registration information associated with the devices;

the first call manager operable to communicate status information from the digit analysis module to a second call manager in response to a change in which call manager of the plurality of call managers controls one of the devices.

76. (Withdrawn) The first call manager of Claim 75, wherein the digit analysis module is operable to communicate status information in response to a change in the control status of a device by communicating registration information associated with a newly registered device controlled by the first call manager.

77. (Withdrawn) The first call manager of Claim 75, wherein the digit analysis module is operable to communicate status information in response to a change in the control status of a device by communicating a deletion message indicating the removal of a device from the control of the first call manager.

78. (Withdrawn) The first call manager of Claim 77, further operable to determine that a device has been removed from the control of the first call manager in response to a failure by the first call manager to receive a response from the device to a polling message.

79. (Withdrawn) The first call manager of Claim 75, wherein the digit analysis module is operable to communicate status information directly to a digit analysis module of the second call manager.

80. (Withdrawn) The first call manager of Claim 75, further operable to:

determine that a second call manager has gone off-line; and

delete registration information associated with devices controlled by the second call manager from the composite registration information stored in the digit analysis module of the first call manager.

81. (Withdrawn) The first call manager of Claim 80, wherein the first call manager determines that the second call manager has gone off-line when the first call manager fails to receive a response to a polling message sent to the second call manager, the second call manager having previously responded to a polling message from the first call manager.

82. (Withdrawn) The first call manager of Claim 75, further operable to:

determine that a second call manager has come on-line; and

communicate local registration information associated with devices controlled by the first call manager to the second call manager.

83. (Withdrawn) The first call manager of Claim 82, wherein the first call manager determines that the second call manager has come on-line when the first call manager receives a communication from the second call manager indicating that the second call manager is on-line.

84. (Withdrawn) First call manager software embodied in a computer-readable medium and operable to perform the following steps when executed by a computer:

control one or more devices coupled to a packet-based network;

store registration information associated with the devices controlled by the first call manager software; and

communicate status information to second call manager software in response to a change in which call manager controls a device.

85. (Withdrawn) The first call manager software of Claim 84, further operable to communicate status information in response to a change in the control status of a device by communicating registration information associated with a newly registered device controlled by the first call manager software.

86. (Withdrawn) The first call manager software of Claim 84, further operable to communicate status information in response to a change in the control status of a device by communicating a deletion message indicating the removal of a device from the control of the first call manager software.

87. (Withdrawn) The call manager software of Claim 86, further operable to determine that a device has been removed from the control of the first call manager software in response to a failure to receive a response from the device to a polling message.

88. (Withdrawn) The first call manager software of Claim 84, further operable to:

store registration information associated with devices controlled by the second call manager software;

determine that the second call manager software has gone off-line; and

delete registration information associated with the devices controlled by the second call manager software.

89. (Withdrawn) The first call manager software of Claim 88, further operable to determine that the second call manager has gone off-line in response to the first call manager software failing to receive a response to a polling message sent to the second call manager software.

90. (Withdrawn) The first call manager software of Claim 84, further operable to:

determine that the second call manager software has come on-line; and

communicate local registration information associated with devices controlled by the first call manager software to the second call manager software.

91. (Withdrawn) The first call manager software of Claim 90, further operable to determine that the second call manager has come on-line when the first call manager software receives a communication from the second call manager software indicating that the second call manager software is on-line.

92. (Withdrawn) A first call manager coupled to a packet-based network comprising a plurality of call managers, the first call manager comprising:

means for controlling one or more devices coupled to the packet-based network; and

means for storing composite registration information associated with the devices;

means for communicating status information to a second call manager in response to a change in which call manager of the plurality of call managers controls a device.

93. (Withdrawn) The first call manager of Claim 92, further comprising means for communicating registration information associated with a newly registered device controlled by the first call manager.

94. (Withdrawn) The first call manager of Claim 92, further comprising means for communicating a deletion message indicating the removal of a device from the control of the first call manager.

95. (Withdrawn) The first call manager of Claim 94, further comprising means for determining that a device has been removed from the control of the first call manager in response to a failure by the first call manager to receive a response from the device to a polling message.

96. (Withdrawn) The first call manager of Claim 92, further comprising:

means for determining that a second call manager has gone off-line; and

means for deleting registration information associated with devices controlled by the second call manager from the composite registration information stored by the first call manager.

97. (Withdrawn) The first call manager of Claim 96, further comprising means for determining that the second call manager has gone off-line when the first call manager fails to receive a response to a polling message sent to the second call manager, the second call manager having previously responded to a polling message from the first call manager.

98. (Withdrawn) The first call manager of Claim 92, further comprising:

means for determining that a second call manager has come on-line; and

means for communicating local registration information associated with devices controlled by the first call manager to the second call manager.

99. (Withdrawn) The first call manager of Claim 98, further comprising means for determining that the second call manager has come on-line when the first call manager receives a communication from the second call manager indicating that the second call manager is on-line.

Appendix B: Evidence

NONE

Appendix C: Related Proceedings

NONE